

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JAMES KISER AS  
2018 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. James Kiser of Darien, Illinois on being named the City of Darien's Citizen of the Year for 2018. After decades of service to his community, Jim is well-deserving of this recognition. Now Mr. Speaker, you might wonder "what did he do"?

Since joining the Darien Lions Club in 1997, Jim has taken the organization's motto, "We Serve," to heart and is known around town as "Mr. Lion." He served as the Club's President from 2013 to 2014 and has held all 12 positions on the Board of Directors. In this capacity, he coordinated a 4th of July Parade, a Halloween party for children and a charity golf outing that benefitted the community.

It is clear that the Darien Lions Club is important to Jim, but his service is not limited to the group's work. Annually, he assists the Darien Chamber of Commerce in planning and setting up Darienfest. In 2005 and 2008, he coordinated the Darienfest Corn Tent, and in 2009, it was the Darienfest Beer Tent. Regardless of the role assigned to him, he finds a way to make his impact felt.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. James Kiser on being named the City of Darien's Citizen of the Year for 2018.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLES  
MCGAHA

**HON. DOUG LaMALFA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. LaMALFA. Mr. Speaker, Charles "Charlie" McGaha was born on June 22, 1927 in Sevier County, Tennessee. The youngest of nine children, the McGaha family headed out west when Charlie was four. The family traveled through Oklahoma before finally settling in Chowchilla, California where he attended local schools. After High school, he began working at Danish Creamery in Chowchilla. He joined the Navy in 1945 and served our country for two years. After his honorable discharge in 1947, he returned to work at Danish Creamery where they held his job while he served in the Navy.

In September 1951, he married the love of his life, Mary Zandona. They had two daughters, Lori and Lisa. Charlie loved to hunt, fish, and ride motorcycles. He prided himself that at the age of 45, he could go dirt bike riding and keep up with the teenagers. He retired from Danish Creamery in 1983 after working for 38 years as a foreman at both the Chowchilla and Fresno plants. Upon retiring, he learned to play golf. He enjoyed the courses at Fresno

West, Madera Municipal, and Pheasant Run in Chowchilla. On October 11, 1999 he got a Hole in One at Pheasant Run Golf Course. Charlie and Mary also enjoyed traveling together. They visited many National Parks and always loved going to Pismo Beach.

Charles is survived by his wife Mary McGaha, his sister Reba Rodriguez of Concord, two daughters, Lori Dill (Russell), of Washington, Lisa Zurilgen (Walt), of Chowchilla, four granddaughters and 13 great grandchildren.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL  
COURT REPORTING AND CAP-  
TIONING WEEK

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Court Reporting and Captioning Week and in appreciation of court reporters across the country. Our court reporters play a critical role in our communities—they hold the vital responsibility to record history, assist those who are deaf or hard of hearing, and preserve judicial proceedings. I witnessed the dedication and professionalism of court reporters through my time as a special prosecutor, but more importantly I have seen the tremendous devotion of court reporters through my wife, Tawni, who has been a court reporter in western Wisconsin for over 25 years. Additionally, I want to recognize the outstanding work done by the Official House reporters, who transcribe proceedings verbatim in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and provide needed support for congressional committees.

The National Court Reporters Association and its members have also been instrumental for the success of the Veterans History Project, which was created by legislation I authored. This project is the largest oral history collection in United States history, having collected over 100,000 stories from our nation's veterans that are permanently stored at the Library of Congress and available to the public.

Shortly after the Veterans History Project was launched, court reporters across the country partnered with the Library of Congress to preserve the narratives of our nation's veterans by assisting in transcribing veterans' stories. To date, over 4,000 oral history transcripts have been submitted by court reporters to the Library of Congress. Not only have court reporters worked diligently with the Library of Congress to transcribe stories that had already been submitted, but many have personally interviewed veterans within their own communities. Without this admirable dedication from court reporters throughout the country, we would not be able to preserve many of these veterans' stories or record the sacrifices they made for our nation.

The National Court Reporters Foundation also launched a program called "The Hard of

Hearing Heroes Project," where veterans with hearing loss can be interviewed for the Veterans History Project through the use of real time captioning. This is a vital service because hearing loss is among the most common service-connected injury and an estimated 60 percent of veterans from the post 9/11 era who have returned from Iraq and Afghanistan suffer some form of hearing loss. The "Hard of Hearing Heroes Project" will help ensure every veteran has a chance to share his or her story.

As we celebrate National Court Reporting and Captioning Week, I want to thank the National Court Reporters Association and its many members throughout the country for their contributions to preserving history and for supporting those who are deaf or hard of hearing. I also particularly want to thank court reporters for their commitment to the Veterans History Project and to preserving veterans' stories for generations to come.

IN HONOR OF THE UNVEILING OF  
THE TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD  
HANGAR HISTORICAL MARKER

**HON. MARTHA ROBY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the unveiling of the Tuskegee Army Air Field Hangar Historical Marker.

In 1941, the Tuskegee Army Air program was established to train approximately 1,000 of the first African-American pilots in U.S. military history during World War II. Along with over 13,000 support personnel, this group became known as the Tuskegee Airmen. The most well known of the Tuskegee Airmen were the members of the 332nd Fighter Group and its four fighter squadrons. The Tuskegee Airmen's 332nd Fighter Group and 99th fighter squadron flew approximately 1500 combat missions, scoring 112 aerial victories, earning 96 Distinguished Flying Crosses and three Distinguished Unit citations.

The Tuskegee Army Air Field closed in 1947 and the facility's three hangars were relocated to municipal airports in Montgomery, Clanton, and Troy. However, the Tuskegee Army Air Field Hangar structure remains largely unchanged from the days of the Tuskegee Airmen.

On August 11, 2017 the Tuskegee Army Air Field Hangar was added to the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage. This Register includes historic, architectural, and archaeological landmarks that are deemed worthy of both recognition and preservation.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to join many others in recognizing the Tuskegee Army Air Field Hangar for its historical significance to the State of Alabama and to our Nation.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. ERNEST  
"BOBO" CLOUD, JR.

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dedicated mortician and compassionate public servant, the Honorable Ernest "Bobo" Cloud, Jr., who will celebrate 33 years of distinguished service to the City of Cairo, Georgia. His celebration will take place on Saturday, February 17, 2018 at Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Cairo.

Ernest Cloud, Jr. was born on May 4, 1948, to the union of the late Ernest Cloud, Sr. and Sarah Brown-Cloud. He graduated from Washington Consolidated High School in 1966, and went on to attend and graduate from Gupton-Jones School of Mortuary Science in Atlanta, Georgia in 1971. After graduation, he received a greater calling upon his life and enlisted in the United States Army. But, this was not the only calling that he would receive in his lifetime. Ernest continued to pursue his interest in mortuary science by serving in the funeral service business alongside his father.

Mr. Cloud's distinguished civil service has been mirrored by his extensive involvement in his community. In conjunction with his professional accomplishments, Mr. Cloud served on several boards, including the boards of the Georgia Funeral Service Practitioners Association, Inc. (where he served as the Budget and Convention Chairmen and the Past President), the Cairo Civics Club (where he served as the County Chairman), the Cairo High School Booster Club (where he served as President), Epsilon Nu Delta Mortuary Fraternity, Inc. (where he served as the Vice President for GA, FL, and AL), and the Fourth District Funeral Service of Georgia Practitioners Association, Inc. (where he served as the Assistant Secretary). He also belonged to a number of prestigious organizations, such as the Grady County Branch of the NAACP, the Georgia State Board of Funeral Services, the Suwanee River Area Council Boy Scouts of America, and several others.

A trailblazer of firsts, Ernest was the first African-American Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in Grady County, and in 1985, he became the first African-American to serve on the Cairo City Council. He has held this prestigious seat for the past 33 years.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays often said: "You make your living by what you get, you make your life by what you give." We are so grateful that Mr. Cloud has given his time and service to the City of Cairo. A man of great integrity, his efforts, his dedication, and his expertise are unparalleled. The light in Cairo, Georgia shines a little brighter because of Ernest Cloud, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in thanking Mr. Ernest "Bobo" Cloud, Jr. for 33 outstanding years of service to the City of Cairo, Georgia, our state, and our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JEWISH  
COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

**HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the hard-working men and women of the David A. Stein Jewish Community Alliance on the celebration of their 30th Anniversary of enriching the lives of those with a variety of needs. JCA is a pillar in our Jacksonville community. The Jewish Community Alliance (JCA) is a non-profit community center affiliated with the Jacksonville Jewish Federation, the United Way of Northeast Florida and the Jewish Community Centers of North America. Its focus is to enhance the quality of life for families and individuals of all ages, religions, races, financial means, and physical and mental abilities.

To this end, JCA has impacted tens of thousands of citizens in our community. Situated on the Ed Parker Jewish Community Campus, JCA welcomes preschool-age children to get a good start in life and embraces teens and adults to join classes on health, heritage and other diverse subjects. At the JCA, there is a spirit of intergenerational sharing of values and ideas. The after-school and school-closed day programs give peace of mind to working parents, both married and single. Seniors and adults with special needs are offered opportunities to reach their potential with dignity and tradition.

The JCA facility offers swimming, theatre and camp programs, fitness and exercise classes, sports teams, and art and academic classes to all members and welcomes all for membership. JCA offers an array of creative and innovative classes, programs and events sure to inspire and benefit participants.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of the House to join me in acknowledging the 30th Anniversary of the JCA and its commitment to the community.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for Roll Call votes 70 and 71 on Tuesday, February 13, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call votes 70 and 71.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE KNIGHTS  
OF LITHUANIA COUNCIL 143 AND  
THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
LITHUANIA INDEPENDENCE

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Knights of Lithuania Council 143 as they celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Lithuania's independence. The Knights

of Lithuania is an organization of Roman Catholic men and women of Lithuanian ancestry located in Pittston, Pennsylvania.

Organized on April 27, 1913, the Knights of Lithuania was originally established as a youth organization. Its mission was to unite young Lithuanians living in the United States, preserve Lithuanian culture, and restore freedom to Lithuania, which, at the time, was divided between Russia and Germany.

In more recent times, it has become a family organization. St. Casimir, patron saint of Lithuania's youth, is honored as the organization's patron. "For God and Country," is the motto of Knights of Lithuania, and its members keep an appreciation of the Lithuanian language and culture alive, while also stressing the importance of Roman Catholic beliefs.

It is an honor to recognize the Knights of Lithuania as they celebrate 100 years of Lithuanian independence. I am grateful for their work preserving Lithuanian traditions for the citizens of the Greater Pittston. I wish their membership all the best as they continue their important mission.

**HONORING COUNCILMAN JIM  
BAYMAN**

**HON. JIM BANKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. BANKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Whitley County Councilman Jim Bayman. For 36 years, Councilman Bayman has represented all or parts of Washington, Cleveland, Jefferson and Columbia Townships. I had the honor of serving with Councilman Bayman in 2009 and 2010, and I saw firsthand the positive influence he has had on the people of his district and our County. Councilman Bayman is hard-working, honest and a caring public servant. I wish him the best as he begins the next chapter of his life. Whitley County will miss his leadership and commitment to public service.

**HONORING LINDA RUFFING**

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2018*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Linda Ruffing, who is retiring from her position as the City Manager of Fort Bragg on February 14, 2018.

Born in Pennsylvania, Linda Ruffing came to California to attend college at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She received a Master's Degree from the University of California, Berkeley, before moving to Fort Bragg in 1992 to work for Mendocino County as a coastal planner.

Linda began her career at the City of Fort Bragg in 1999 as the director of community development and became City Manager in 2006. In addition to her exceptional character, judgment, ethics and values, Linda has provided critical leadership on many initiatives for the city, including the acquisition of 95 acres of parkland and a site for the Noyo Science Center on the former mill site, which includes